SACRAMENTO AREA CAREER WOMENS NETWORK, INC.

VOL. 5, NO. 7 JULY, 1989

COUNTRY WESTERN DANCE/BARBECUE

JULY 15, 1989

12 p.m. to 5 p.m. +

BEACH LAKE PRESERVE

SACWN is providing utensils, charcoal, and plates napkins, etc.

Bring your own meat to barbeque and a dish to share.

Bring your own drinks (or byob).

PRICE:

$6.00 limited income and seniors and students
$7.00 Subscribers
$8.00 Non-subscribers

There will be no tickets sold in advance — these ticket prices are good for at the "door" so to speak.

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STEERING COMMITTEE REPORTS

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

This month has brought about changes to the Newsletter staff. We lost a very valuable committee member in Suzy, our Editor.

I want to thank her for making my transition to Coordinator very smooth and easy. Also without her kindness and support my job would not have been as enjoyable or as fun.

Thank you, Suzy!

How would you like to be the voice of over 500 beautiful, courageous women?

How would you like to influence over 1,000 beautiful, courageous women?

How would you like to network with over 1,500 beautiful, courageous women?

If you have a desire to do all of these things while expressing your creativity, call me at 1-676-4317.

JOIN THE NEWSLETTER STAFF - USE YOUR IDEAS, MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

New Advertising Policy - Beginning with the next issue, if you would like to advertise in the newsletter please send your camera-ready artwork and a check to the Editor, SACWN, Inc., P.O. Box 661332, Sacramento, CA 95866.

Lydia Roseby
Coordinator

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Finally! Finally! Finally!

Programs now has a full complement of associates and committee members and we are bursting with new ideas. (It's only taken 3 years!)

I would like to welcome Amanda as my associate chair and right arm. She has the energy needed to push us into the 1990's. Patti and Dana are committee members with great ideas and enthusiasm. If you have any complaints, talk to them.

I am incredibly pleased with this team of women and I'm sure you will all be happy with the upcoming program events with SACWN, Inc. If not, feel free to join us!

Joanna Cassese, Coordinator
Amanda, Associate

NETWORKING COMMITTEE

As this article goes to print, we haven't held our Networking Party. When you read this article, it will be over. The Networking Committee hopes you found the evening entertaining and that you met at least one new SACWN member you didn't know before. Also, a special thank you to the women (Ellie, Ellen, Barbara, Sharon, Linda, Joyce, Elaine and Rosanna) who came up with all those creative ideas.

The SACWN Directory is in process. If you would like to put a bid in on the typesetting or the printing of the directory, please contact Rosanna Herber at 443-6879. We hope to have the SACWN Directory to you by August or September.

Please note the new policy SACWN has on announcements at SACWN Programs. At THE HUB you will find announcements forms to fill out so that your announcement can be made at the beginning of programs. You will also find THE HUB has all kinds of information about the workings of SACWN; from the Steering Committee meeting minutes to the SACWN Constitution. Check it out!!

The Special Interest Groups of the Networking Committee continue to grow and expand. Take a minute to read about them and see if there is a special interest you would like to share with other SACWN members.

Rosanna Herber, Coordinator
Ellie Zacks, Associate

STEERING COMMITTEE

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SACWN, INC. Newsletter is published monthly. No portion of this newsletter may be reproduced without written permission from SACWN, Inc. Letters to the Editor are encouraged. Please address correspondence to Editor, SACWN, Inc., P.O. Box 661332, Sacramento, CA 95866. Names will only be published with prior approval. Letters may be edited for space restrictions.

Dear SACWN Newsletter:

You have requested letters from subscribers to print in the newsletter so here's one that I request you print without editing. When I first joined SACWN I was enthralled with the experience of being in a safe, supportive, enhancing atmosphere with lesbians that gathered together for a common purpose: to spend time with other lesbians. Opportunities to participate in special events as well as a variety of activity groups were a welcome change to my everyday world that invalidated my choice of sexuality as well as my gender. I, like Joann Loulan, had grown tired of straight people and the male/female games and innuendos that pervade every facet of life from T.V. to the workplace. I am tired of resisting the unspoken belief of the heterosexual world that demands that women should give their attention to men and none to themselves.

SACWN has been a refuge from this, a chance to feel freedom, and joy. It has given me an opportunity to experience comradery with other lesbians that appreciate these rare events when we can get together with other lesbians. I'm not able to attend women's festivals and appreciate a chance to celebrate being a woman and a lesbian in a female atmosphere.

I have just read in the SACWN newsletter that there has been a decision to schedule holiday events with gay men. Was this decision made by a few or a concensus? While I respect the decision that any of us might make to socialize with whomever we choose in our *personal* time, I object to decisions being made for the organization as a whole without asking for other subscribers' views on the matters being decided. I do not object to socializing with other lesbian organizations but I object to bringing men into our functions, gay or otherwise. Men are capable of amusing themselves without needing women to organize their holidays for them. I would like to think that SACWN would not fall into the traditional caretaker role as an organization. We can care for ourselves without having to be caretakers for men. I have participated in other gay mixed groups and the gay men always end up getting all the attention. Furthermore, many gay men bad-mouth women in words as well as in attitude. This creates an unsafe atmosphere. It is incredibly easy for women to fall into co-dependent relationships with men and gay men are not exceptions to this tendency which is the result of years of socialization. The presence of adult males in a group always changes the whole feeling and spirituality of the atmosphere.

I realize many gay men are experiencing a tough time with AIDS, but we cannot "fix" the predicament this disease has caused. Some lesbians are choosing to socialize and develop friendships with them. However, I don't think those who choose to do this should bring men into our functions without first asking what the rest of us think. There are plenty of other mixed gay organizations that offer male/female social interaction for those who desire this social setting. SACWN is a special organization because it is for lesbians to socialize with each other. It's healthy to be selfish at times, to have special places and things just for us. Please don't dictate your values and take away a safe place for those of us who are comfortable with and enjoy the special interaction we experience in all-women events. We are whole individuals by ourselves; we do not need men to make us feel like people.

Alice Pittman

IN THE COMMUNITY

CONGRATULATIONS
To All SACWNite Grads!

Women's Rap Group and Social, every Monday evening, 7-9 p.m., Lambda Center, 1931 L Street, Sacramento.

Sapp-SIG — A new Lesbian Mensa Special Interest Group has been formed in Northern California. For information, call (415) 256-9075.

Lesbian and Gay TV programming every Thursday, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Sacramento Cable TV Channel 63.

Women's Employment Service & Training, providing employment and training opportunities for women. A program of the Sacramento Women's Center, Inc. (916) 441-4207.

EVENTS OF THE FUTURE

AUG. 1 - SACWN Steering Committee Meeting 6:00 to 8:30. For information about location call Linda Killick, 486-8985.

AUG. 15 - Newsletter Committee Meeting

AUG. 18 - Film — "OUT IN SUBURBIA"

SEPT. 5 - SACWN Steering Committee Meeting 6:00 to 8:30. For information about location call Linda Killick, 486-8985.

SEPT. 19 - Newsletter Committee Meeting

SEPT. 29, 30, Oct. 1 - Camp SACWN

OCT. 3 - SACWN Steering Committee Meeting. 6:00 to 8:30. For information about location call Linda Killick, 486-8985.

OCT. 17 - Newsletter Committee Meeting

OCT. 21 - Annual Membership Meeting

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A "HOT" SUMMER NITE with SACWN, Inc.

When was the last time you sat in a movie theater eating popcorn with your best friend or holding hands with your girlfriend? Well, maybe not that long ago.

But when was the last time you sat watching a movie and the **entire** audience was lesbians — and the movie starred 10 lesbians? If this sounds like a fun evening, look for more details in the next SACWN, Inc. newsletter.

NEWSLETTER STAFF

CONTRIBUTORS ..... *JOYCE, SACWN BOOK GROUP*
ADVERTISING ..... *WILLIE*
PRODUCTION ..... *JOAN G., LYDIA*
COORDINATOR ..... *LYDIA*
TYPESETTING/ LAYOUT ..... *WORDCRAFT TYPE*
PRINTING COORDINATOR ..... *CHERYL*

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Business Directory - Member, $5.00, Non-member $10.00
Classified Section - Member $.20 per word, Non-member $.30 per word.

NO ADS WILL BE TAKEN OVER THE PHONE OR AT SACWN EVENTS. PAY IN FULL IN ADVANCE AND SAVE 10% for 3 insertions or longer — SAVE 15% with 12 insertions.

All art and payment is **due on the 2nd Tuesday of the month** for next month's issue. Send to SACWN, Inc., P.O. Box 661332, Sacramento, CA 95866.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

JULY

BRIDGE

Get out your best suit
In diamonds and spades or hearts and clubs
No jokers . . . or
(Maybe we all are);
Come to the Grand Slam Bridge Opener
Every 2nd and 4th Fridays
Players and non-players alike —
ALL welcome.

Call Kathy Mullen, 362-3175 for information on time and place.

GOLF

SACWN Golf is in full swing for the summer. We are playing at a variety of courses this year due to the amount of players and limit on golf tee times available. New members have joined this year, and a few are involved in the SACWN group lessons taught by SACWN member, Dori O'Rourke. All levels of players are welcome. Be reminded though, if you sign up to play and a conflict arises — cancel at least two days in advance so members on our waiting list have a chance to play. To sign up to play in the Thursday night league or for more info, call Melody at 392-3609. For lessons, Dori 428-9401 or 392-3609. Rules of our league play are available at the HUB at each monthly meeting of SACWN.

SINGLES ONLY

June's singles event was a potluck and swimming party at Linda's. July's event will be Sat., July 22. Remember all of you single people, this is a place to make new friends as well as to meet a potential date. Call Linda at 921-9052 for further info concerning the place and time for July's party. See you there — all of you Single SACWNs!

A.C.A. OR DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES GROUP

The focus of this group — adult children of alcoholics or dysfunctional families — is to create a supportive environment for change. We are a Step Study writing workshop. The main text is "The 12 Steps, A Way Out," the revised edition. Also other current literature, books and tapes will be discussed and applied to personal A.C.A. or dysfunctional experiences. Sharon, 454-6056.

OUTDOOR RECREATION

Activities are planned for the first weekend each month. Call Ellen for the plan for Aug. 5. We are also planning a horseback riding trip in September. Check August newsletter for details. Ellen, 441-7962.

SELF-EMPLOYED WOMEN

Our group is growing by leaps and bounds! We talked about goals and motivation at the last meeting. We'll have a marketing consultant speaking at the July 18th meeting. For location and details, call Aeriel at 452-5503.

METAPHYSICAL/SPIRITUAL

A new metaphysical/spiritual group has been formed which meets every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. There is a wide range of interest and experience in the group. Every other week there will be a set topic, and on the other alternating weeks, a "talking circle" will be held. For more information, please call Karen at 452-3091.

LESBIAN MOTHERS AND CO-PARENTS

July 9th - Sunday Picnic at the Park . . . newcomers welcome. Let's meet and have fun at this open meeting at Carmichael Park (Fair Oaks and Grant) by the playground equipment. Please no alcohol. Mothers, children and friends of lesbian mothers welcome (SACWN members please).

THE BOOK GROUP

What's summer without a few good books to read? And what's a good book without someone with whom to discuss it? We've got both the books and the women to discuss them. Why not join us! There are two books for July, *Two Willow Chairs* and *The Dress* both by Jess Wells, both available at Lioness. For August it will be at least three chapters from *Lesbian Ethics* (including the first and last chapters plus one of the readers choice). And the book for September is *The Goddess in Every Woman.*

We would like you to join us. For more information call Gretchen, 922-6287.

SOCIAL AND SOBER

A potluck social was held on June 11th at Linda R's house. This first meeting included plans for upcoming events, meeting dates, and places. The Social and Sober group sponsors a wide variety of alcohol and drug free events open to all SACWN subscribers, both singles and couples. Call Linda R. (482-6118) for information, date and location of upcoming activities.

Remember, Special Interest Groups are limited to SACWN members only. Call Ellie, 967-0611, if you're interested in joining potential new groups — Cards (other than Bridge), Dance (Ballroom and Western), Cancer Survivors, or if you have a suggestion for a new group.

BOOK REVIEW

By Bonne Holbrook, SACWN Book Group

CLICKING STONES, Nancy Tyler Glenn, NAIAD Press, 1989

Clicking Stones promises a lot, but unfortunately delivers too little. Author Glenn starts out well as seven-year-old Erica meets her spirit guide, "a mysterious old woman," who gives her her first set of clicking stones — stones that illuminate when two individuals, who believe, meet and rap their stones together. Erica then becomes the central figure of a new world-wide cult reaching for luminescence and spiritual awareness through clicking stones. Erica, however, is relatively uninvolved in the development of this new religion except as a figurehead recounting the tale, over and over again, of her introduction to the stones. This continues until her ultimate disillusionment as she becomes aware of the shallowness and artificiality of her involvement, something, unavoidably, that the reader is aware of much sooner.

Clicking Stones also details the story of Erica's evolution as a lesbian and her lifelong love of her childhood friend, Morgan, who once lost, is found and loved (and made love to) once again. The book also tells the story of Morgan and Erica's development as artists.

Then the aliens land bringing the gift of everlasting life, medicines requiring Erica and Morgan to resolve their beliefs about aging and death.

Unhappily, author Glenn not only introduces far too many plotlines, she never completely explores any one of them. Why do the stones illuminate? Who is the spirit guide and why does she appear once, never to do so again? Why does a religion develop and why, then, is it fraudulent? And why aliens, especially with longlife pills?

However, all is not lost. The tale does have its pleasant, albeit confused, moments. Glenn shows talent, which if pared down and directed might in the future produce some admirable writing.

The real disappointment is Katherine V. Forrest's editing, or lack thereof. One expects better. It's no longer enough for a book to have a lesbian protagonist and a happy ending in order to satisfy the reader. Our community has begun to produce a higher standard of writing, even the beginnings of literature. *Clicking Stones* harkens back to the olden days. My regrets.

MARKETING BIDS

Marketing Committee is accepting bids for typesetting and printing of the new member brochure.

They also need someone to do posters for the monthly program.

Please send your bids to Willie c/o SACWN, Inc., P.O. Box 661332, Sacramento, CA 95866.

SACWN, INC. — SUBSCRIPTION/RENEWAL BY MAIL

Annual cost is $24 for a calendar year (or two $12 installments, the second due in 6 months). Subscription entitles you to receipt of our monthly newsletter and discounts for our various functions (dinners, dances). To avail yourself of these services provided by SACWN, Inc., send a check for the correct amount made payable to SACWN, Inc.

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WAVIER

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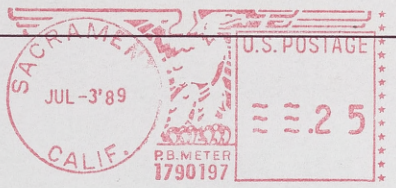

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